

Citizens with Disabilities Advisory Committee Meeting  
February 21, 2013  
Meeting Minutes

**Members Present:** Caren Wilson, James Laidler, Patricia Kepler, Missy Kirkland

**Members Absent:** Talia Toller (excused), Rich Higgins, Mary Guptil, Peter Barker.

**Guests:** None

**Approval of the Previous Meeting's Minutes:** Jim made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 17, 2013 meeting. Missy seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Committee Liaisons:** Councilor Cate Arnold attended as the City Council Liaison for 2013.

**Reports:** Caren asked Councilor Arnold about the potential of City Hall functions moving to the office building at the 'Round' (known as the South Office Building) and what services would move. Councilor Arnold reported that a move is being considered and that City staff are currently working on preliminary space plans and cost analysis. The City services that would move have not been finalized; however, most services with the exception of public safety (Police) and court functions are likely to move. Councilor Arnold also mentioned that in addition to the move of City Services to the South Office Building, the issue of a public safety building for police and court services is also under review. It is possible that the current City Hall building would be replaced with a new public safety building. A big part of the consideration for replacing the current City Hall building has to do with its ability to resist earthquakes. The building does not meet the current building code standards to resist earthquake loads for a building that is considered 'essential' to the safety of the public. A new building could be constructed to the most current building code to meet the essential standards. The issue of earthquakes prompted the Committee members to have a discussion about what (if anything) the CDAC could do to help persons with disabilities in a major disaster. Issues such as a database or list that identifies persons who may have special needs was identified; however, as with past discussions it was pointed out that many people do

not want to be on such a list. Jim pointed out that even if such a database was created, in a major disaster it may not be available anyway. In many disasters neighbors helping neighbors has been integral in responding to major disasters. Caren mentioned that she would contact Ted Morris (City Emergency Management) to discuss how CERT (Community Emergency Response Teams) could be provided with information about people who may need special assistance in disaster.

Brad reported on behalf of Don Mazziotti (Community and Economic Development Director) that the City continues to work on getting a community health care center that will focus on preventive health care and include services for person with disabilities. No specific location has been determined for the health care center at this time.

#### **Old Business:**

- **City Taxi Service for Persons with Disabilities.** No report.
- **Art Show for Persons with Disabilities.** Caren reported that the show has been scheduled for April 6 to May 6, 2013. There will be an artist's reception on April 6<sup>th</sup> from 12pm to 4pm and is open to the public. All the paperwork has been filed with the City and School District. Caren will submit the announcements about three weeks prior to the event. The event will be advertised in the Valley Time and Oregonian. Caren mentioned she hopes many of the Committee members will attend the event.
- **Update on Getting a Police Department Representative to Speak About their Training in Dealing with Persons with Mental Health Issues.** Jim reported he spoke with Beaverton Police Sargent Barnbrook and found that 6-10 officers have between 20-40 hours of training specific to this issue. Other officers have the general training received in the police academy. Sargent Barnbrook reported that when an officer is called to a disturbance, they must quickly assess the situation and actions of the person(s) involved. It is difficult for officers to determine if the person(s) involved have mental health issues or are just being difficult. The officers must be concerned with the safety of the people involved and themselves, so often this results in detaining people. Officers do have access to social workers to respond and assist if needed. Another issue that creates difficulties for police officers is the lack of facilities where

person with mental health issues can be taken when needing temporary restraint. Jim volunteered to speak again with Sargent Barnbrook about having him attend a future CDAC meeting (May, 2013 meeting?) to have a dialogue about how to educate the public (possibly a public forum) about reacting to person who are acting odd and give thought as to whether the need for police intervention is really needed. Jim also volunteered to compose an article for the next City newsletter that discusses this issue.

**New Business:**

- **Select New Committee Chair and Vice-Chair for 2013.** Jim made a motion to nominate Caren as the Chairperson for 2013. Patricia seconded the motion. The motion carried. Patricia made a motion nominating herself as the Vice-Chairperson for 2013. Caren seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Next Meeting:** March 21, 2013